



**COUNCIL OF
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NOTE

From :	Presidency and Counter-Terrorism Coordinator
To :	Terrorism Working Party
Subject :	Reporting on the implementation of the EU Strategy and Action Plan on combating terrorism

Several Member States have requested that the EU Action Plan on Combating Terrorism, contained in document 7233/1/07 REV 1, be updated. Furthermore, a meeting of national Counter-Terrorism Coordinators convened in Brussels on 25 May 2009 invited the EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator (hereinafter CTC) to streamline reporting on EU counter-terrorism activities.

Following an invitation from the Presidency to comment on a suggested procedure to update the Action Plan on combating terrorism, several delegations have shared their thoughts with the Presidency. After further deliberations and discussions with the CTC, the Presidency and the CTC have decided to adapt the updating process so that it also incorporates the regular reporting on the implementation of the Action Plan.

While the Action Plan has not been updated since 2007, the CTC has provided six-monthly implementation reports on the EU Strategy and Action Plan to Combat Terrorism since November 2007¹. These reports have focused on a selection of current issues highlighting certain priorities some of which were not included in the Action Plan. These constitute a concise and practical document rather than providing an extensive overview of the state of play of all measures.

¹ Documents 15411/1/07 REV 1 + ADD 1 REV 1, 9416/1/08 REV 1 + ADD 1 REV 1, 15912/08 + ADD 1 REV 1 and 9715/1/09 REV 1 + ADD 1 REV 1

Taking into account the above it is proposed to issue one annual report on the implementation of the EU Strategy and Action Plan on Combating Terrorism. This new annual report would replace the current CTC six-monthly implementation report, and thus the reporting structure would change from the end of 2009. It is the Presidency's as well as the CTC's firm belief that the new reporting structure would not only streamline reporting but also make the EU approach to counter-terrorism more comprehensible to the public.

The new annual implementation report would consist of the following elements:

- part I, which would describe the counter-terrorism measures and actions from the past year, would use the format of the previous EU CTC six-monthly reports and be divided into four sub-parts: prevent, protect, pursue and respond;
- part II, which would constitute a list of ongoing or to-be-achieved actions, divided into the same four sub-parts, presented in the form of a table according to the model of the EU Action Plan on Combating Terrorism; already implemented actions would be deleted at each revision;
- the document would also take account of policy recommendations drafted on the basis of SitCen reports.

The draft implementation report for 2009 would be submitted to delegations by early November.

Regarding the 2010 implementation report, delegations are asked to consider whether it should also include information on the implementation of the EU Radicalisation and Recruitment Action Plan, the EU Media Communication Strategy and the Strategy on Terrorist Financing in addition to the EU Strategy and Action Plan on Combating Terrorism. Consequently, this would mean that there would be one annual report encompassing all strands of the overall effort made by the European Union in the field of counter-terrorism.

To focus discussion on key current issues, the CTC will continue to issue a separate discussion paper once per Presidency.